

**ABSTRACT**

A longwall support control for controlling the movements of the longwall support units and the advance heading in the longwall of a mine comprises a plurality of control units, of which a separate control unit (mining shield control device) is locally and operationally associated to each longwall support unit. Each mining shield control device comprises a multichannel radio transceiver, via which one of the mining shield control devices is in a simultaneous transmit and receive mode with a decentralized, portable operating device for receiving control signals, and for transmitting data of measurements and state. The mining shield control devices are programmed such that control signals coming in by means of radio can be converted into functions of the longwall support unit only when the control signal stores the code word that is associated to the called up mining shield control device. The mining shield control devices are interconnected, preferably by two bus lines (58, 59) for transferring input data to all mining shield control devices. Each mining shield control device comprises an amplifier for refreshing signals that come in via the bus line.